Programs Branch

User Report

# "D" DIVISION POLICE SERVICES COMMUNITY PROJECT: AN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NO. 1984-24

Solicitor General Canada
Ministry Secretariat

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This working paper is available in French. Ce document de travail est disponible en français.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project described in this summary was planned and initiated by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Financial support and other assistance were provided by the Programs Branch of the Ministry of the Solicitor General of Canada and the Province of Manitoba. The executive summary was prepared by Dr. Rick Linden of the University of Manitoba under contract with the Research Division, Ministry of the Solicitor General of Canada.

By the early 1970's a strong interest in community policing and crime prevention had developed in Canada. However, many of the programs implemented were not well planned, not targeted at specific crime and order problems, and thus of questionable effectiveness. In response to this situation, in 1979 the RCMP Crime Prevention Centre designed a planning model for identifying crime and other policing problems at the community level and developing strategies to combat these problems. The problem identification process in this model works by combining official statistics and survey data to provide both information about crime patterns and the views of police, community leaders and ordinary citizens about crime and crime-related problems and possible solutions. This information is then used to formulate problem statements which rank problems according to their priority for the community. The final step in the planning process is the development of possible strategies to deal with the priority problems and a statement of the benefits and costs of employing them.

Once the problem identification/problem solving process was developed, the decision was made to test it in several communities through a project designed to demonstrate how the model could be implemented in a police organization. At the same time, the need for police training in crime prevention was being addressed by the Canadian Police College. A study begun by the College and conducted with assistance from the Crime Prevention Centre developed a course of instruction on community crime/problem identification and crime risk analysis. Because little information was available on this subject in Canada, lectures and information packages were borrowed from the United States. It was anticipated that a demonstration project would provide Canadian material for use in crime prevention courses taught at the College.

Together, these developments -- the desire to test the police-community problem identification process and produce results applicable to other Canadian communities, and the need to develop specifically Canadian content for the Police College crime prevenation course -- resulted in the development of the "D" Division Police Services Community Project.

The Province of Manitoba was selected as the site of the demonstration project because of its central location in Canada and its progressive police management. Within the province of Manitoba, the detachments serving the towns of Selkirk and The Pas and their surrounding rural areas were selected as typical R.C.M.P. detachments. The goals of the Project were:

1. to provide better policing services within existing resources;

2. to test and refine a model for the planning and delivery of policing and other criminal justice services which incorporated modern police and criminal justice concepts;

3. to transfer the problem identification and problem solving process to the criminal justice system in Selkirk and The Pas;

4. to develop and implement a program which addressed the criminal justice problems identified in Selkirk and The Pas; and

5. to transfer the program planning and service delivery model to other R.C.M.P. detachments.

It was acknowledged that subsequent studies that might be undertaken by other communities would not require such a broad-based, costly, and time-consuming effort. However, since this was to be a demonstration, it was felt that the initial study must be as thorough and complete as possible. The philosophy guiding the Project was that it was better to collect more information than might be needed than to overlook information which might turn out later to be critically important.

A contract was awarded to the Minnesota Crime Prevention Center, Inc. (M.C.P.C.), a private not-for-profit organization based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to assist in developing and implementing the Project. M.C.P.C.'s role was to design the data collection instruments, collect and analyze the data, write reports, and assist in conducting community meetings.

Purposes of the Report

This report is intended to serve several purposes. First, it is intended to document the development of the Selkirk/The Pas Police Services Community Project and the events leading up to its implementation. This documentation provides an historical perspective on the rationale for the project.

The second purpose is to present the research findings for each of the four study areas. Most of this report consists of a description of the results obtained during the data gathering/problem identification phase of the study. These data provide the basis for making recommendations regarding what community problems need to be addressed and how this should be accomplished.

Third, this document describes and assesses the activities which took place in the four areas subsequent to, and as a result of, the research phase of the demonstration project through December, 1982. These activities included follow-up community and committee meetings, and the work of the police and other community members in planning crime prevention projects.

Finally, the report provides a description of the methodological and procedural steps taken during the project. An evaluation of the methods used and suggestions for alternative approaches also be provided. Copies of all questionnaires, data collection sheets and data collection guides are included. All of this information is presented in the context of a "Replication Guide" so that the conduct of the study can be evaluated by others and so that communities which anticipate undertaking similar projects will have pertinent information to guide their efforts.

## FINDINGS

For each of the sites, data were collected from the following sources: police occurrence reports; citizen surveys administered to a random sample of community residents; and key person interviews conducted with community leaders and with those involved in the criminal justice system. Separate analyses were

done for each of the sites. The results from each are summarized below.

Selkirk Municipal

Most Selkirk residents did not feel that crime was a major problem in their community. Three-fourths of the community leaders and criminal justice professionals did not think crime was a major problem. Less than 12 percent of the citizens surveyed said that they had heard of many crimes occuring in their neighbourhood, with only 6.7 percent saying this condition made them feel uneasy about their safety. Selkirk residents were not very fearful of crime, judging from their own perceived likelihood of becoming a crime victim and their feelings of safety in their own neighbourhood.

There was some disagreement about whether the crime problem was getting worse or better. Most of the criminal justice professionals contended that the level of crime had been decreasing, while close to half of the citizens and the majority of the community leaders thought that crime was increasing in Selkirk.[1] When the citizens were given the opportunity to talk about the crime problem in their own neighbourhood, a different picture emerged. People did not perceive that crime was increasing where they lived -- almost three out of four said the level of crime has remained about the same, and only 12 percent said it had increased. Apparently, the discrepancy was due to the fact that most people thought crime was increasing elsewhere in Selkirk, but not where they lived.

Although people were not overly worried about crime, there were several specific crime and crime-related problems over which people expressed concern. Once such problem was alcohol and drug abuse and the crime problems associated with it, such as impaired driving, or domestic disturbances and assaults. Over 80 percent of the community leaders spontaneously mentioned

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[1] Crime rates actually increased gradually between 1975 to 1978, but the level has been declining slightly since 1978.

alcohol and drug abuse when asked to name the most serious crime-related problem in Selkirk. Similarly, when asked whether or not each of eight conditions existed where they lived, the largest percentage of the survey respondents said that intoxicated people -- those who have had too much to drink or were under the influence of drugs -- were a problem in their area. When respondents were asked to rank a list of crime problems in terms of the amount of attention that should be given them, the greatest percentage gave impaired driving -- an alcohol/drug-related crime -- first priority. Finally, the analysis of the police offense data suggested that alcohol and drug usage was involved in a substantial number of crime incidents, especially disturbances and assaults.

There was also considerable agreement among all of the sources that property crimes -- break and enter, theft, and wilful damage/vandalism -- were problems experienced by many community residents. This was the second most frequent type of call for service (after traffic) responded to by the police, and the most frequent type of criminal offense. There was also evidence that the citizens believed that attention should be paid to these crimes, even though most did not perceive that these are the most frequently occurring crimes. For example, over 21 percent of the citizens ranked vandalism first in terms of the priority it should be given by criminal justice agencies; almost 18 percent ranked breaking and entering first; and another 10 percent said the top priority should be theft.

One final problem area which was identified as being important by the citizens surveyed (although not considered as serious by the various groups of key persons) was the general area of traffic enforcement, particularly speeding and impaired driving. The citizens ranked speeding as the area's most serious problem, and the highest percent of respondents said that impaired driving should receive the most attention from criminal justice agencies.

All of the data sources were consistent in giving the police good ratings for their performance. Selkirk residents reported that they were pleased with the quality of the services provided by the R.C.M.P. officers assigned there. In turn, the R.C.M.P. officers reported that they liked the community and believed most citizens were cooperative and respectful.

Both the community leaders and the citizens, however, suggested areas in which the police could improve. These included a better relationship between the police and juveniles, more foot patrols in the business district, more vehicle patrols in residential areas, and more public education/communication with citizens. All of this translated into a call for greater visibility and involvement of the police in the community.

On the other hand, the police felt that more involvement on the part of the community was needed. The police did not believe that the community wanted to get involved in crime prevention programs or in solving community problems. They saw most of the community residents as being apathetic and either unaware of or uninterested in police problems.

The community did express an interest in police matters, but they did not know what their role or responsibility should be. They were not well-acquainted with the kinds of crime prevention programs or services which are available. This area of police activity -- supplying crime prevention information -- received the least positive performance evaluation rating. Apparently, the R.C.M.P.'s crime prevention and police/community relations program were not reaching the public as well as they could or should.

Despite the fact that most people did not consider the crime problem to be extremely serious, considerable interest was expressed in doing something to help solve crime and crime-related problems in Selkirk. The potential exists for citizen involvement in crime prevention programs. When the respondents in the citizen survey were asked how willing they would be to help with a group that was concerned about preventing crime, 31.6 percent said they were "very willing to help". An additional 58.6 percent said they were "somewhat willing", with only 6.1 percent saying they were "not willing". The interviews with community leaders indicated that there were many resources -- clubs, committees, organizations, and public agencies -- available to help with crime prevention programs. Some of these groups are already engaged in activities aimed at dealing with crime problems. Some kind of major effort may be needed, however, to mobilize all of these interested groups and individuals, and to coordinate and expand existing programs.

Selkirk Rural

Whether or not crime was perceived as a problem in Selkirk Rural depended on who was being asked. Almost 90 percent of the community leaders and a majority (62 percent) of the R.C.M.P. officers interviewed said crime was not a major problem. The results of the citizen survey indicated that there was a fairly substantial minority of citizens who are concerned about crime. Close to one-third (31 percent) of the citizens said that they had heard of many crimes in the area, and 25 percent said this condition made them feel uneasy about their safety. More citizens felt uneasy about crimes in their area than any of the other problem conditions cited. When asked to rank a list of area problems in order of their seriousness, property crime was ranked as the most serious problem on the list by the greatest number of respondents. The citizens' estimates of becoming a victim of crime, particularly property crimes, also suggested concern on the part of some citizens. For example, almost one-third (32 percent) felt they had a good chance or were certain of being a victim of breaking and entering, with 27 percent saying the same about theft.

There were other indications that people in the community considered crime to be a problem. For instance, between 40 and 50 percent of all of the various groups interviewed -- citizens, community leaders, police -- said that the level of crime was increasing. Very few people thought crime was decreasing[2]. A somewhat different pattern of responses emerged when citizens were given the opportunity to discuss crime levels in their own neighbourhood, as opposed to the area as a whole. It appears that more people perceive crime to be increasing in the Selkirk Rural area as a whole, rather than where they live. While there are indications that a minority of the residents are concerned about the crime problem, the vast majority are not fearful for their safety.

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[2] An examination of actual reported crime data for each year between 1975 and 1980 indicated a large increase in crime (46 percent) from 1975 to 1976. Crime then leveled off with yearly changes being 5 percent or less, resulting in a total decrease of 9 percent between 1976 and 1980 (from 1,163 total crimes to 1,057).

It should be noted that this discussion of "Selkirk Rural" as a whole area is somewhat misleading. The area is large and is composed of several distinct and different communities. When the responses to the citizens surveyed were tabulated by area, there were some differences. For example, more people in the southern portion of Selkirk Rural expressed concern about crime than in the northern part.

While it is difficult to interpret exactly how much concern about crime there was among Selkirk Rural citizens, there was more agreement on the seriousness of several specific crime and crime-related problems. One such issue was that of alcohol and drug abuse, and associated problems such as impaired driving. Two-thirds of the key people interviewed spontaneously mentioned this issue as the most serious crime or crime-related problem in rural Selkirk. The police data supported these observations. Alcohol/drug offenses, including liquor law violations, impaired driving, drunkenness, and drug violations, were the most frequent type of service call responded to by the R.C.M.P., representing almost one-fourth of the total. This category was also the most frequent type of criminal offense investigated by the police, comprising approximately 40 percent of all reported crimes. Furthermore, in almost half of the criminal case files (7 percent) there was suspect involvement with alcohol and/or drugs at the time the offense occurred. Alcohol and drug problems were not seen as being as serious by the citizens surveyed as they were by the community leaders, but they were still ranked fairly high.

There was considerable evidence from all the data sources that crimes against property were a major concern. While impaired driving was ranked as the most serious problem, three separate property crimes were given the next highest rankings by the citizens in terms of the priority they should be given by local justice agencies. Taken together, these three crimes -- break and enter, wilful damage/vandalism, and theft -- were selected by almost one-half of all the citizens surveyed as number one in priority. As already suggested, property crime was ranked by citizens as the most serious problem in the neighbourhood. Property crimes, as opposed to personal crime, also generated higher concern about the likelihood of being victimized. Break and enter was the crime mentioned by most citizens as the one believed to be increasing.

The police offense data and key person interviews coincided with the citizen concern. Property crime was the third most frequent type of service call responded to by the police (17 percent of all calls), and the second most frequent criminal offense category. Approximately one-third of all crimes reported were crimes against property. In addition, the community leaders and police officers cited property crimes — particularly burglary and vandalism — as second to alcohol and drug abuse in seriousness.

One additional area of concern revealed by the citizen survey was the general category of traffic enforcement. Almost 60 percent of those interviewed ranked "speeding vehicles" as one of the three most serious area problems from the list provided. Impaired driving was ranked number one in terms of the amount of attention it should receive from criminal justice agencies. Traffic enforcement comprised over 18 percent of all of the police calls-for-service.

The local R.C.M.P. detachment was generally praised and given a favourable overall evaluation by both the community leaders and the sample of citizens. Three-fourths of the citizens said the police had either a good or excellent attitude toward them as residents and only 2 percent described it as bad.

However, there were suggestions that improvements were needed. Community leaders felt that the police needed to become more visible, to visit the schools more, and to improve their relationships with the community by becoming more involved. The citizens surveyed echoed these sentiments: close to one-half of them said improvement was needed in the area of more vehicle patrols, stricter enforcement with juveniles, education programs in schools, and police-community relations.

For their part, the police officers felt the residents of Selkirk Rural were responsible for at least part of any gap between the R.C.M.P. and the community. They suggested that citizens should become more aware of the police function and become more involved in their programs. They also maintained that citizens could help the police by reporting more crimes and supplying them with more information.

There were some expressions among the community leaders and the other citizens in Selkirk of a willingness to participate in expanded crime prevention activities. Most of the individuals interviewed were not aware of any crime prevention programs currently operating. Yet, as indicated above, there appears to be a substantial minority of citizens who are at least somewhat concerned about crime, especially break and enters. One of the biggest criticisms of the R.C.M.P. was that they were doing a poor job supplying crime prevention information, suggesting this may be important to residents.

One of the barriers to a unified program effort may be distance and lack of communication. The Selkirk Rural area is geographically spread out and is comprised of several different communities. It is not an area with its own identity. Another barrier may be that the interest level is not high enough to sustain a program effort. While there appeared to be a minority concerned about crime, the majority of citizens -- and most of the community leaders -- apparently did not consider crime to be that serious a problem vis-à-vis more pressing economic problems. It may be difficult to obtain widespread involvement in a crime prevention effort without a sufficiently high level of motivation.

The Pas Municipal

Most of the town leaders in The Pas considered crime to be a problem. Over half of the key persons answered affirmatively to the query: "Is crime a major problem in The Pas"? All of the police officers interviewed thought so. Further, close to half the group said the crime problem was worse in The Pas than it was elsewhere in the district.

The town residents, however, did not agree with this assessment. Only 10 percent of the citizens surveyed thought there were many crimes in their area, with less than 6 percent saying this condition made them feel uneasy. When citizens were asked to rank a list of problems in order of seriousness, the majority ranked speeding vehicles first, stray or loose dogs second, and traffic violations third. Crime problems such as vandalism, drunkenness, disturbances, and property crimes all received low rankings in terms of perceived

seriousness. The majority of the respondents thought the level of crime had "remained about the same" both in the town as a whole (67 percent) and in the area where they lived (73 percent). Twice as many of the key people (34 percent) than the citizens (18 percent) thought crime had increased in The Pas.[3]

According to town leaders, the most serious crime-related problem in The Pas town was alcohol abuse, which was spontaneously mentioned by over 80 percent of those interviewed. The police offense data supported the contention that alcohol-related crimes were serious. Almost one-fourth of all of the criminal offenses during 1979 were alcohol/drug-related. In addition, for all types of crimes the suspect was reported to be involved with alcohol or drugs in over one-third of the cases. Once again, the citizens included in the survey did not completely share this opinion (although differences in questions in the two sets of interviews made comparison somewhat difficult). However, there were indications that at least some citizens considered alcohol problems to be serious: when asked if certain conditions existed in their area, the most frequent response (mentioned by almost 38 percent) was "intoxicated people". Moreover, 21.5 percent said the presence of intoxicated persons made them feel uneasy. Similarly, the small minority of the respondents who thought crime was increasing said it was mostly alcohol-related problems that were responsible for the increase. Most of those who identified areas with a bad reputation for crime said it was because of liquor outlets and bars.

However, when asked to rank problems in terms of how serious they were, less than 5 percent of the citizens rated drunkenness number one. Indeed, it came in fifth place out of seven problems listed. On another question, drunkenness ranked sixth out of seven crime problems in terms of the amount of attention the citizens thought it should be given by local law enforcement agencies. Impaired driving, an alcohol-related problem, was ranked number one on this question by the highest proportion (just over one-fourth). Hence, while

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[3] An examination was made of actual reported crime data for each year during the period 1975 to 1980. These data indicated a 12 percent increase in total reported crimes from 1975 to 1976 and a 40 percent increase from 1976 to 1977. The total number of reported crimes then remained about the same from 1977 to 1980, decreasing by 1 percent.

town leaders — and the offense data — suggest alcohol-related problems are serious, the citizen responses are mixed. Citizens appeared to recognize the existence of alcohol abuse, but did not consistently report it to be a serious problem.

Traffic-related problems emerged from the citizen survey data as being of concern to The Pas residents. "Traffic violations" were cited by over 50 percent as the type of crime occurring most frequently, and it came in second, following "impaired driving", in the amount of attention it should receive from criminal justice agencies. Furthermore, "speeding vehicles" was ranked by the largest proportion of citizens (36.5 percent) as the most serious area problem, with "traffic violations" coming in third ( cited as most serious by 11 percent). These expressed concerns by citizens about traffic-related problems did not coincide with the community leaders' perspectives on area problems. None of them mentioned traffic problems as being serious.

In summary, the various data sets did not all point to a single conclusion about crime-related problems in The Pas. The offense data indicated property crimes, in particular vandalism and theft, occurred most often. Community leaders felt that alcohol abuse was the most serious crime-related problem. The citizen survey responses were not easy to interpret but they seemed to indicate that The Pas residents were most concerned about traffic-related problems.

Residents of The Pas Town felt the police were doing a good job, and that the relationship between the police and the community was a good one. Two-thirds of the citizens and community leaders rated police performance as "good". For their part, the police thought the citizens were respectful and co-operative, but they added that in some instances the respect is a by-product of fear, and that for the most part citizens are unaware of police problems.

Despite the good ratings, the citizens and community leaders pointed out areas in which police might improve. The citizens suggested that police could improve their relations with juveniles, increase their foot and vehicle patrols of business and residential areas and, in general, enhance their

communications with the public. Community leaders expressed a similar sentiment: they thought the police should become more involved in the schools, like the town more, keep the community abreast of what the police were doing, and improve their relationship with the native population.

The police also saw a need for better communication between themselves and the community. They also believed the community could be more cooperative and should try to understand the police more. Perhaps, one officer noted, all would be better served if the community took some leadership in regards to community problems.

Finally, both the citizens and community leaders apparently saw the police role as involving both law enforcement and crime prevention. They indicated that crime prevention aspects of the police function could be strengthened and broadened. Citizens said they lacked information about crime prevention programs. Although the groups viewed each other favourably there was a perceived need for better communication.

Many of the community leaders interviewed expressed an interest in working on solutions to the crime and crime-related problems in The Pas. The town leaders seemed particularly aware of alcohol/drug abuse problems in their community and apparently were willing to help do something about the problem, although many saw the source of the problem as being outside their control (unemployment and transients were cited as the primary causes of the problem). Two years ago, an Ad Hoc Committee on Crime and Alcohol was formed and the committee released a report on the subject. There are some resources available — in the form of groups, clubs, committees, organizations, and public agencies — which could help crime prevention programs. While the citizens expressed less concern about the crime problem, most of them (close to 90 percent) responded that they would be somewhat or very willing to join with their neighbours in forming a crime prevention group.

The Pas Rural

Crime-related problems concerned rural The Pas residents, but they

apparently did not consider crime, narrowly defined, to be a major or serious problem, at least not when compared to more basic problems such as unemployment.[4] This conclusion is based on the citizen survey responses and the interviews with key persons. Seventy percent of the key persons answered "no" when asked if crime was a serious problem in their area.

Moreover, just over 10 percent of the citizens surveyed said the condition of "many crimes in the area" existed where they lived, and only 8.8 percent said this condition made them feel uneasy.[5]

The majority of both the citizens and the community leaders did not think that crime was on the increase in their area, nor in rural The Pas as a whole. Rather, most believed crime levels had remained about the same, and some thought crime had actually decreased. Similarly, most thought the crime problem where they lived was no worse than elsewhere in Manitoba. Only 6 percent of the citizens responded that their area has more crime compared to others, while 52 percent said that their area has less crime.

These opinions about the seriousness of the crime problem in rural The Pas were not shared by the R.C.M.P. officers interviewed. For the most part, the police thought the crime problem was worse in The Pas Rural than in other parts of Manitoba, that crime had increased in The Pas Rural, and that it was a major problem.[6] Most likely the law enforcement officers had a different frame of reference and basis for comparison that the community residents, who may have come to accept the crime and crime-related problems in their communities. It is also possible that many community residents thought of alcohol abuse as a health or moral problem rather than as a crime-related problem.

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[4] As was the case in Selkirk Rural there were some differences between communities within the detachment area.

[5] Due to a very low response rate for the citizen survey, results of this part of the study should be interpreted with caution.

[6] An examination was made of actual reported crime data for each year during the period 1975 to 1980. These data show a large increase in 118 percent in total reported crimes from 1975 to 1976 — an increase from 450 to 981 crimes. A 16 percent decrease occurred from 1976 to 1977; there was a 13 percent increase between the years 1977 and 1980, most of which took place in 1980.

Although not a great deal of concern was expressed about crime, there was a high level of agreement about what constituted the most serious crime-related problem. All of the various data sources pointed to alcohol abuse. Over 90 percent of the key community people interviewed spontaneously mentioned it, including both the community leaders and the police officers. When the citizens surveyed were asked whether or not one or more of a set of eight conditions existed where they lived, the largest proportion — over 40 percent — said intoxicated people, with nearly a quarter of the respondents saying this condition made them feel uneasy. They also ranked three alcohol-related problems -- impaired driving, drunkenness, and liquor law violations — as first, second and third in terms of the priority they should receive from criminal justice agencies.

Finally, the police calls-for-service and offense report data also supported the conclusion that alcohol abuse was the most serious crime-related problem. Liquor law violation was the individual type of offense which occurred with the greatest frequency. Alcohol and/or drug involvement was noted in almost half of all of the criminal offenses occurring in rural The Pas.

There was also some concern among community leaders that assault was a problem. Just over 10 percent of the citizens surveyed said they had a "good chance" or were "certain" to become the victim of an assault. But here again, the problem was identified by the community as being alcohol-related. This contention was also supported by the police offense data, which indicated that there was reported involvement in at least 50 percent of all personal crimes (most of which were assaults). The conclusion that alcohol abuse was a serious problem in rural The Pas, both in terms of perceptions and official statistics, is inescapable. Furthermore, it appeared to lead to other crime problems, such as assaults.

In general, the community leaders and residents in rural the Pas did not have very high opinions about the performance of the local criminal justice system agencies. They tended to see these agencies as remote and relatively unconcerned about their community. Community leaders were evenly divided in their assessment of the R.C.M.P. with half saying that police performance was good, and the other half saying performance was poor or commenting that they

were seldom seen. This last comment is not unexpected, since the detachment area covers 8,033 square miles. One out of eight of the citizen respondents rated the police job performance as "poor", with almost one-fourth saying performance was poor in two specific police activities, prompt response to calls and supplying crime prevention information.

Since many of the citizens and community leaders had doubts about how well the police performed their jobs, it is not surprising that they had suggestions about how the police might improve. Nearly one-half of the citizens felt the police needed to improve vehicle patrolling of rural areas, enforcement of liquor laws, and communication with the community. Another third saw a need to improve response time, treatment of minorities, and education programs for schools. The Community leaders concurred with these opinions, focusing on two major areas in need of improvement: police/community relations and police visibility. The community leaders were evenly divided in their assessment of the R.C.M.P. with half saying that police performance was good, and the other half saying performance was poor or commenting that they were seldom seen.

Lack of communications between the police and the community appeared to be a major problem. The police described their relationship with the communities as "good", with most citizens being cooperative and respectful. However, this assessment does not correspond with comments made by the citizens and community leaders. Many residents reported distrust, apprehension, and/or fear of the police. There was a serious lack of communication and understanding between the police and some segments of the rural communities. Whatever police crime prevention and community/public relations programs the police had undertaken had not reached many residents. There were indications, however, that many people would like to see the police improve their efforts in these areas, although there are major barriers to overcome in order to accomplish this.

While there were serious crime-related problems apparent in rural The Pas, namely alcohol abuse and to a lesser extent assault, these problems are not amenable to solution through police/citizen crime prevention programs. According to people in the community, the alcohol problem was a consequence of

more deep-rooted problems such as chronic unemployment, low education and skill levels, and a sense of frustation and hopelessness. Until these underlying problems are attacked, perhaps through massive government assistance, many residents will continue to drink to excess, according to those interviewed. Several therapeutic and counselling programs for alcohol abusers already exist and more may be needed. These programs, however, may be viewed as mere palliatives in the absence of more basic changes in rural The Pas.

The evidence also indicated that the atmosphere is not very conducive to developing police/community crime prevention programs. As some community leaders described the situation, citizens were apathetic, at least in some of the communities. In a similar vein, the police did not believe they have enough manpower or training to start and oversee a crime prevention program. No group appeared willing to take the responsibility for community crime prevention. All of the criminal justice agencies would do well to reevaluate their role and responsibilities in rural The Pas, and consider ways in which they could be more responsive to the needs of the communities.

In order to present the findings of the research, general community meetings were held in Selkirk and The Pas. Summaries of the research reports were presented and questions were answered by members of a panel made up of members of the R.C.M.P. and researchers. Both meetings attracted a cross section of community leaders, as well as citizens concerned about crime prevention. As a result of the meetings, crime prevention activities were organized in both communities. The problem identification process did generate interest in crime prevention, though the degree of interest and involvement has varied considerably in the four communities.

A major purpose of the study was to provide a model of crime prevention problem analysis for the use of practitioners in other jurisdictions. As a summary of the lessons learned from the project, the report concludes with a methodology replication guide. The guide includes a discussion of the sources, methods, and rationale for collection of the three primary data

sets -- police data, citizen survey data, and community leader interviews -- and brief evaluations of the approaches taken during the project as well as some suggested alternative approaches for future projects. By following this replication guide it should be possible to improve upon the Selkirk/The Pas analysis in a more cost-efficient fashion.